

Pre-Scrutiny questions and answers on reports being considered on the Overview & Scrutiny Agenda 7 February 2023

5. Equalities Task & Finish Group

(Report author(s): Councillor Mini Mangat & Graham Leach – Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer)

Question(s) from Councillor R Dickson:

Thanks for this update. It's excellent news to read that at last an EDI Business Partner is in post.

Given the importance of this issue, the public campaign that prompted the original motion and also the changes in local ethnicity revealed by the 2021 census, it is very concerning that there has been no EDI training for members in the past four years.

Can you please confirm the date - as indicated in Paragraph 1.14 - of the planned training for members and that this will also be delivered as a matter of urgency for the new Council?

Response:

We have got training booked in for all Councillors on EDI this side of the election on which feedback will be requested to help enhance the same session for the new Council. The date of the new Council has not been set yet for reasons that you will see in the papers to A&S Cttee in February.

I will check as I believe there have been a number of EDI courses for Councillors in the last four years as well as other opportunities to explore equalities matters.